(a) whether the Prime Minister have discussed Siachen issue with the Prime Minister of Pakistan during his recent SAARC Summit in Kathmandu;

(b) if so, what was the outcome of the discussion; and

(c) what further action Government intends to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prime Minister made it clear that India was forced to respond when Pakistan attacked our posts in Siachin. It was agreed that the discussions on Siachen could be resumed between Defence Secretaries of the two countries.

Locating the New Layers of Subsoil Water

1339. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in certain areas, the first layer of subsoil water has almost totally been exploited and the dug/tube-wells drawing that water have dried up in large number;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to explore the possibility of locating the second or third layer of subsoil water in such regions so that the farmers get an alternate source of irrigation water;

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that the recharging of the subsoil water resources of the country is effective and adequate; and

(d) whether Government propose to procure drilling rigs which can go down to deeper depths and tap the second/third layers of the sub-soil water resource ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Groundwater declines have taken place in localized pockets of some States.

(b) Central Ground Water Board is carrying out exploration of deeper aquifers in the country.

(c) Integrated Water-shed management, construction of percolation tanks and artificial recharge projects are being undertaken to augment recharge of groundwater.

(d) A few deep drilling rigs are available with Central Ground Water Board and State Organizations and some more are being procured.

Monitoring of 20-Point Programme

1340. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) which are the States, where the progress of the implementation of twenty point programme has been satisfactory according to the monitoring done by the Union Government during the last one year and in which State it has been far from satisfactory;

(b) whether the monitoring is being done on the basis of the reports and statistics supplied by the State Governments themselves or any independent checks are also done by any impartial third agency; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make the monitoring more realistic and purposeful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) While different States have fulfilled targets under different items of the 20-Point Programme, no State has been able